

A new subspecies of *Euploea blossomae* Schaus (Lepidoptera, Danaidae) from Mindanao, the Philippines

Akira YAMAMOTO¹⁾ and Shin TAKEI²⁾

¹⁾1-18-2 Nogata, Nakano-ku, Tokyo 165

²⁾1321 Tyrol Road, West Vancouver, B. C., Canada V7S 2L5

Abstract *Euploea blossomae hilongensis* ssp. n. is described from Mindanao.

Key words Danaidae, *Euploea blossomae hilongensis* ssp. n., Mindanao, taxonomy.

Euploea blossomae has hitherto been known as an endemic species in highland of the Philippines and differentiated into six geographical races from its main islands. In Mindanao, subsp. *sibulanensis* Jumalon, 1971 (Type locality, Mt. Apo) has been described and any specimen of *E. blossomae* flying in geographically isolated high mountains of Mindanao has been considered this subspecies. The authors captured a new geographical race from Mt. Hilonghilong of the Diuata Cordillera in northeastern Mindanao by their several explorations of Mindanao.

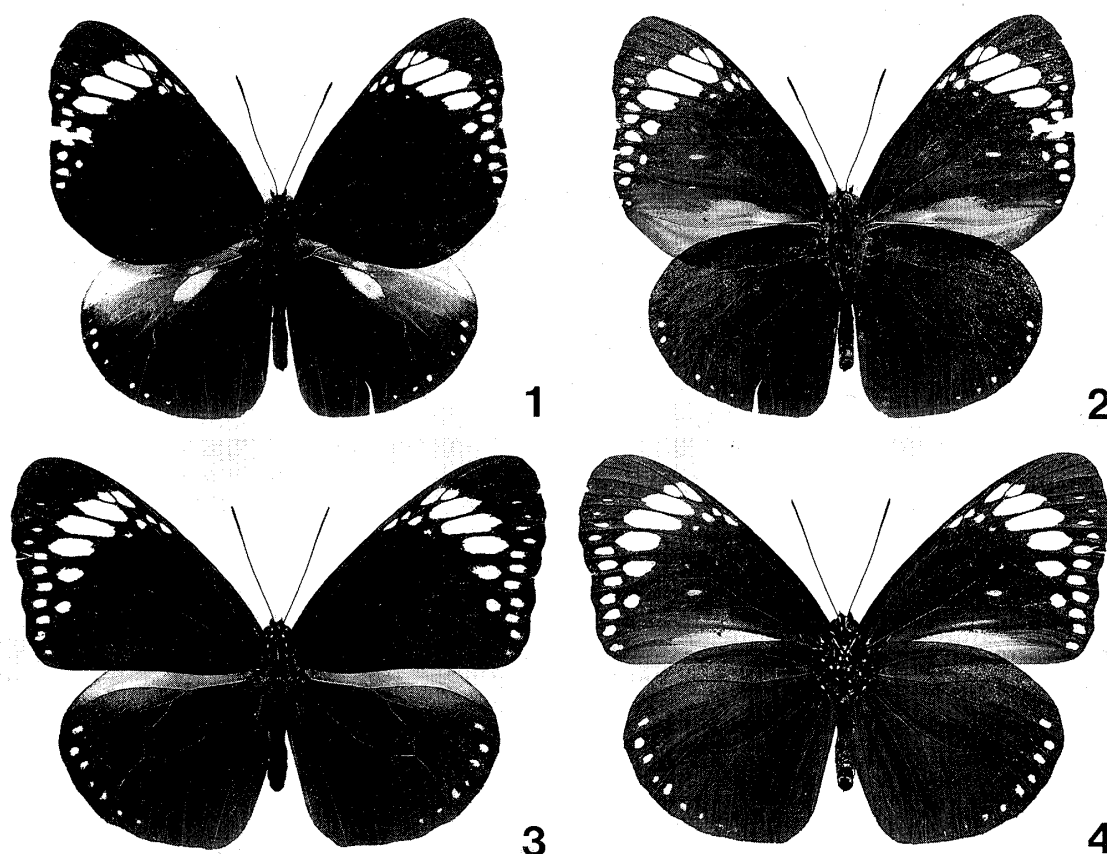
***Euploea blossomae hilongensis* subsp. nov. (Figs. 1-4)**

♂ Upperside: Ground color velvety black. Forewing with clearly defined marginal and submarginal series of white spots. Marginal spots decreasing in size from vein 5 to the apex and obsolete above vein 7, while submarginal ones becoming larger and conjoined above vein 4, forming a conspicuous subapical patch in spaces 4 to 8. Small subcostal spots existing in spaces 6, 9 and 10. No sex brand present in space 1b. Fringe black and chequered with pure white except apical and tornal portion. Hindwing with buff brown specialized scales in spaces 5 and 6 except half of spaces 7 and 8. Distal half in spaces 7 and 8 nacreous pale grayish. Pale buff raised patch is lenticular shape and placed in anterior portion of the cell and slightly extending above and beyond the cell in some specimens. Marginal series of small white spots clearly defined in spaces 3 to 6, but those in spaces 3 and 4 weakly marked or absent in some specimens. Fringe black and chequered with pure white below vein 7.

Underside: Ground color chocolate brown. Forewing with the same marginal and submarginal series of pure white spots as upperside. Additional small white spots present at proximal portion of spaces 2 and 5, and space 3 in some specimens. Space 1b lighter brown with specialized scales, and in the middle of posterior portion ill-defined buff brown patch. Dorsal grayish nacreous area being in whole of space 1a and proximal portion of space 1b. Hindwing uniformly chocolate brown and with the same white marginal series as upperside.

Both wings slightly crenulate. Forewing termen slightly concaved between veins 2 and 5, and dorsum strongly bowed. Hindwing termen evenly curved. Forewing length: 38 to 46 mm.

♀ Upperside: Similar to male, but ground color dark brownish black without velvety tint. Forewing submarginal white spots in spaces 2 and 3, and subapical white patch in spaces



Figs. 1-4. *Euploea blossomae hilongensis* subsp. nov. 1. ♂, holotype. 2. Ditto, underside. 3. ♀, paratype. 4. Ditto, underside.

4 and 8 slightly larger than those of male. Hindwing spaces 7 and 8 with proximal half brown and with the distal half grayish white but no nacreous as in the male. Marginal series of white spots in spaces 3 to 6 larger and more clearly marked than those of the male. The rest of the wing uniformly brownish black.

Underside: Similar to male, but ground color paler. Forewing space 1a and proximal two-thirds of posterior portion of space 1b grayish white; anterior portion of space 1b with white streak. Hindwing with marginal white spots in spaces 3 to 6 larger and more clearly defined than those of upperside and with additional ones in space 2 weakly marked.

Both wings slightly crenulate. Forewing termen slightly concaved between veins 2 and 5, and dorsum straight. Hindwing termen slightly produced at vein 6. Forewing length: 45 to 49 mm.

Holotype: ♂, Mt. Hilonghilong (900-1,800 m), northeastern Mindanao, 17. viii. 1989, S. Takei leg. Paratypes: all collected at the same locality as the holotype, 8 ♂, 31. vii.-4. viii. 1978, S. Takei leg.; 22 ♂ 1 ♀, 30. iv.-4. v. 1979, S. Takei leg.; 5 ♂ 3 ♀, 17. viii. 1989, A. Yamamoto leg.; 3 ♂, 17. viii. 1989, S. Takei leg. The holotype and a pair of paratypes will be deposited in the collection of the National Science Museum (Natural History), Tokyo.

This new subspecies is similar to subsp. *sibulanensis*, but *hilongensis* can be distinguished from the latter by the marginal white spots on hindwing.

Reference

Jumalon, J. N., 1971. Four new Philippine Danais. *Philipp. Scient. (F)* 8: 11-19.

摘 要

ミンダナオ島産 *Euploea blossomae* Schaus の 1 新亜種 (山本 晃・竹井 慎)

ミンダナオ島北東部ディウアタ山系のヒロンヒロン山より *Euploea blossomae* の 1 新亜種 subsp. *hilongensis* を記載した。*E. blossomae* はフィリピン群島のおもだった島々から 6 亜種が知られている。ミンダナオ島からは subsp. *sibulanensis* Jumalon, 1971 (基産地, アポ山) が記載され, これまで同島の地理的に隔たった他の山地に産するいずれもが *sibulanensis* とされていた。新亜種 *hilongensis* は *sibulanensis* に近似するが, 後翅の表・裏面ともに外縁紋列を現わす点で異なり, 容易に区別できる。
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